

## The Path to Understanding

John 11

## April 23, 2023 Community Group Discussion Questions

## PLEASE READ BEFORE LEADING DISCUSSION

- Recommended questions are highlighted in bold, but <u>select 5 or 6 questions</u> you think will work best for your group discussion. You likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time and make sure to provide plenty of time to focus on the application questions.
- Feel free to edit or reword questions to best fit your group.
- You may want to print out copies of this document for everyone so they can follow along with the questions as you read them.
- Check out this Facilitation Guide (<u>http://bit.ly/CGFacilitationGuide</u>) for tips on leading good discussions.

**ICEBREAKER (5-10 Minutes)** – share your name and answer one the following questions:

- 1. What types of movies do you prefer to watch with your friends or family?
- 2. Who was your childhood best friend? What is your relationship like with them today?

**OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes)** – Have someone recap the message in about a minute or two and then ask the following questions:

3. What scripture, story, or idea stood out to you from this week's video and message?

**DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes)** – ask everyone to follow along in their Bible or Bible app. You might consider looking up these passages online and sharing your screen to review them together.

- 4. Read John 11:1-44. (This is a long passage. For much of church history, the primary way people heard the Bible was reading it together in big chunks. It's doable. Read it slowly and think about it carefully, then ask the questions below.)
  - What stands out to you from this story?
  - What can we learn from Jesus' relationships with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus?
- 5. Reread John 11:21, 32.
  - When have you felt like Mary and Martha?
  - Have you ever felt like God was not listening when you prayed? How did you deal with this?
  - How does the way Jesus postponed his response to the sister's help you understand your own prayer life?
- 6. Reread John 11:25-26.
  - $\circ$  What hope do these verses give us when we see the people we love facing illness or death?

## **APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)**

7. How does this passage help you as you reflect on your own life?

**GROWTH GOALS:** (<u>Print Growth Goal Forms or share the link online</u>) – this may be great to discuss in prayer time.

8. What is a next step in your faith you want to take in the next 5 weeks?